

REMARKS

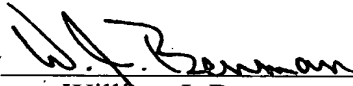
Claims 23 – 43 are presently pending. In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 23 – 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claims 23, 25, 26, 30 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Sarnezki *et al.* Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sarnezki *et al.* in view of Fukao *et al.* Claims 33 – 43 were allowed.

The indication of allowable subject matter is gratefully acknowledged. By this Amendment, Applicant has canceled Claims 23 – 32 and presented new Claims 44 – 54 for consideration. Claim 44 is an apparatus claim drafted along the lines of Claim 33, albeit slightly broader. Claims 45 – 54 are apparatus claims drafted along the lines of method Claims 34 – 43. Inasmuch as Claims 33 – 43 were indicated as being allowable, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 44 – 54 should be allowable as well.

Consideration, allowance and passage to issue are therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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By



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